The position was explained to the students of UCMS and it was also confirmed by the MCI. Therefore, the strike was withdrawn by the students.

**Pending requests for grant of Industrial licences from Punjab**

*18. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of requests for the grant of industrial licences from Punjab, which are pending with Government; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to expedite the disposal of such requests?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) As on 15th April, 1990, 88 pending Industrial Licence applications for setting up of industrial undertakings in Punjab are at various stages of processing.

It is the constant endeavour of the Government to dispose of the Industrial Licence applications as expeditiously as possible.

***Survey of Coal areas in Chimur Taluka* in Chandrapur, Maharashtra**

*19. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India have conducted any survey for coal reserves in the Chimur Taluka under Chandrapur District of Maharashtra;

(b) whether a huge reserve of coal has been located in this Taluka and if so, what is the volume thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to start work on the 'Bandari' mines in the Chimur Taluka; and

(d) if so, by when the work is likely to start and what is the expenditure involved?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (d) The Geological Survey of India has not conducted any survey in the Chimur Taluka of Chandrapur District of Maharashtra. However, the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Maharashtra and the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute, Ranchi have carried out surveys on the basis of which it is estimated that there are reserves of about 10 million tonnes of coal in the 'proved' category and 190 million tonnes of coal in the 'indicated' category in the Bander Coalfield of Chimur Taluka. Further detailed exploration of the area with a view to drawing up a project report for the mines is in progress. The project is likely to be taken up during the 9th Plan period.

**Quota of Gas Agencies to Freedom Fighters**

*20. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cooking gas agencies allotted to freedom fighters or their dependents, State-wise; and

(b) whether Government propose to increase the quota of gas agencies for the freedom fighters?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The number of LPG distributorships allotted to freedom fighters State-wise as on 1.1.1990 is as follow:

| State | |
|---|---|
| Andhra Pradesh | 10 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 0 |
| Assam | 8 |
| Bihar | 5 |
| Goa | 1 |